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Letters to Koreans Abroad for N-S Confederation

The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland (DFRF) Nov. 24 sent by international mail to Koreans abroad letters proposing to found a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo as a unified Korea, which were adopted at a joint meeting of political parties and public organizations.

In the letters, the Central Committee of the DFRF expressed the hope that the overseas Korean figures and compatriots would positively respond to the momentous proposal.

It Nov. 20 sent similar letters to the 157 south Korean political figures including former "president" Yun Bo Son, former DRP president Kim Jong Pil, former NDP president Kim Yong Sam and other ruling and opposition ex-party members.

Listed below are the names of overseas Korean personages to whom the letters were sent:

Kim Jae Jun, Honorary Chairman of the "Council of Koreans in North America for Human Rights";

Rim Chang Yong, Senior Chairman of the "Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification";

Choe Kok Sin, Chairman of the "Padeal National Council";

Choe Hong Hui, publisher of "Paedal Sinbo";

Yun I Sang, Chairman of the "Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification";

Kim Song Rak, Chairman of the "Society for Promotion of National Unification";

Li Yong Je, Chairman of the "Korean Society in France for the Promotion of Independent Unification";

Kim Jae Hwa, Chairman of the Japan headquarters of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and Promotion of Unification";

Chang Chong Myong, head of the "ROK Residents Union in Japan";

Li Sang Chol, Permanent Chairman of the North American headquarters of the "National Alliance for Democracy";

Li Jae Hyon, Chairman of the U.S. headquarters of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and Promotion of Unification";

Kang Jong Su, publisher of "Hoju Tongsin";

Li Sang Chan, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Australia";

Kang Don Gu, Chairman of the "Korean Council in West Germany for the Building of Democratic Society";

Li Jong Hyon, Chairman of the "Union of Korean Workers in West Germany";

Li Yong Bin, Chairman of the "Society of Korean Christians in West Germany for the Unification of the Country";

Choe Gi Hang, Chairman of the "Council in Switzerland for the Building of Democratic Society";

Rim Yu Jik, Chairman of the "Council in Sweden for Defence of Democracy";

Chong Song Bae, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in France for the Study of the National Problem";

Li Yu Jin, Chairman of the "Council of Compatriots in France for Freedom";

Yu Jae O, Chairman of the "Scandinavian Front for Defence of Democracy in South Korea";

Cho Sung Bok, Chairman of the "National Alliance in Sweden";

Pae Dong In, Chairman of the "Bertland Rusnel Society";

Pang Se Hwan, Chairman of the "Society for Human Rights of Miners in West Germany";

Chong Jun So, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in France";

Li Song Song, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Denmark";

Chong Ye U, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in West Germany";

Li Gwang Bae, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Austria";

Li Sam Ryol, Chairman of the "Korean Council in West Germany for the Building of Democratic Society";

Choe Rak Chae, Chairman of the "Hamburg Society of Koreans in West Germany";

Yun Byong Du, Chairman of the "Hannover Society of Koreans in West Germany";

Sin Sang Gil, Chairman of the "Klausthal Society of Koreans in West Germany";

Li Dok Su, Chairman of the "Gottingen Society of Koreans in West Germany";

Ko Won, Chairman of the "Democratic Koreans United in the Americas";

Choe Sok Nam, Commander of the "General Command of the Veterans Army in the United States for National Salvation";

So Dong Son, Chairman of the "Council in the United States for the Building of Democratic Society";

Pak Chan Ung, Chairman of the "Council in Canada for the Building of Democratic Society";

Li Bo Bae, Chairman of the "Patriotic Women's Fellowship Society in the United States";

Li Nam Sun, Chairman of the "Patriotic Women's Fellowship Society in Canada";

Tong Won Mo, Chairman of the "Society of Korean Christian Scholars in North America";

Kang Dae Il, Chairman of the "Saegil Committee in Chicago";

Ko Se Gon, Chairman of the "Korean Committee for Democratic Alliance" (the United States);

Ha Gyong Nam, Chairman of the "Struggle Committee of Koreans in the United States for Human Rights in South Korea";

Kang Gwang Sok, representative of the "United Front for National Unification" (the United States);

Kim Sang Don, representative of the "National Council in South California for Restoration of Democracy" (the United States);

Kwon Byong Sam, representative of the "Los Angeles Society of Catholic Working Youth" (the United States);

Kim Yong, Chairman of the "Union of Korean Working Youth in the United States";

Kang Won Jin, Chairman of the "Institute of Democracy, Nation and Unification in Canada";

Cho Gwang Nam, Chairman of the "Korean Cultural Centre in New York, the United States";

Kye Un Sun, Chairman of the "Society for Helping Victims in Kwangju" (the United States);

Pak Jin Bang, Chairman of the "Orange County Society of Koreans" (the United States);

Sonu Hak Won, Chief of the "Institute of Proposals for Neutrality and Reunification" (the United States);

Pak Ui Suk, Chairman of the Committee of the "American General Headquarters for the Promotion of the Establishment of the Democratic Government in South Korea";

Kim Sun Gyong, Chairman of the "Philadelphia, the U.S., Council for Helping Korean Sufferers' Families";

Cha Guk Chan, General Chairman of the "General Federation of Korean Christians in the Americas";

Li Gun Pal, Chairman of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and Promotion of Unification" (the United States);

Kim Chang Bom, Chairman of the "Korean Society in Chicago, the United States";

Pak Ji Won, Chairman of the "Korean Society in New York, the United States";

Yon Song Chan, Chairman of the "Korean Society in Cile";

Li Jae Gu, Chairman of the "Korean Society in San Francisco, the United States";

Li Sang Chol, Chairman of the "Korean Society in New Jersey, the United States";

Kim Dok Su, Chairman of the "Korean Society in Philadelphia,

(Continued on page 8)

W. German Bundestag, Schmidt Demand Kim's Freedom, Tokyo Takes No Steps to Save Him

World public opinion demanding Kim Dae Jung's freedom is continuously mounting as the south Korean democratic leader gets closer to death.

On Nov. 24 West German Chancellor Schmidt, in a government statement in the Bundestag, urged the south Korean authorities to give freedom to Mr. Kim.

The government of West Germany has repeatedly called on Seoul to set free Kim Dae Jung. But this is the first time that the Chancellor himself called for Kim's freedom in the Parliament.

The West German Parliament Nov. 27 unanimously adopted an appeal calling on the south Korean "government" to grant clemency to Kim Dae Jung.

The appeal also demanded all the friendly nations of West Germany support West Germany's efforts to rescue Mr. Kim.

Over 7,000 Japanese citizens and workers Nov. 27 gathered at an open-air music theater in Hibiya Park, Tokyo, to call for retraction of the death verdict imposed on Kim Dae Jung.

A resolution adopted at the national meeting declared: "The Japan policy toward south Korea aimed at dividing Korea into two and maintaining south Korea as political and economic stronghold of Japan is attributable to Kim's death sentence."

Makieda Motohumi, Chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions (Sohyo) called on Japanese workers and people to step up economic sanctions against south Korea at the meeting.

After the meeting, the attendants staged a demonstration march to the Diet to call on the government not to bolster the Chon Du Hwan military regime.

Tomizuka Mitsuo, Secretary General of the General Council of Trade Unions called on its members to boycott ships carrying cargo to or from south Korea in early December if the death sentence against Kim Dae Jung is upheld by Seoul's supreme court, a union official said on Nov. 27.

Mr. Tomizuka made the remark at a meeting of the National Railway Workers Union.

Tomizuka called on the 23,000-member All Japan Harbor Workers Union to refuse to handle cargo going to or coming from south Korea between Dec. 3 and 5, a Sohyo spokesman said.

The union leader also urged members of the Seamen's Union locals in Niigata, Tsuruga and Maizuru, major ports for such cargos, to take part in the walkout, the spokesman said.

He also said Sohyo plans to conduct a campaign to boycott south Korean goods sold in Japan and press the government to impose economic sanctions against south Korea if Kim's death sentence is upheld.

In response to a call from Sohyo's Secretary General, Japan's 850,000-strong national transport workers federation(Zenkotsu) Nov. 28 said that it will refuse to handle trade cargoes between Japan and south Korea starting December 3 to press for the release of the south Korean dissident leader who faces death.

The Zenkotsu's plan includes a boycott of loading and unloading of goods exported to or imported from south Korea and a "don't buy Korean goods" campaign.

Asukata Ichio, Chairman of the Japan Socialist Party, Makieda Motohumi, Chairman of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan and members of the Japan Liaison Council to Save Kim Nov. 29 called on Japan Prime Minister Suzuki at the premier's official residence and emphasized that the government should take concrete steps to save Kim, including the reconsideration of economic aid to south Korea.

After presenting to the Prime Minister a list of signatures collected by Sohyo from about 3.5 million people demanding the release of Kim, Asukata said the government should inform south Korea that Japan would break off all relations with the Chon Du Hwan administration if Kim was executed.

Meanwhile, a top foreign ministry official ruled out on the night of Nov. 28 the stoppage of Japanese economic cooperation with south Korea as a measure to counter the possible execution of the south Korean democratic leader.

The official said that although the implementation of the Japanese cooperation will face difficulty, but from the standpoint of fostering a long-term bilateral relationship there will be no change in the implementation of the schedule.

The ministry official corrected in effect the remark made by Foreign Minister Ito Masayoshi at a session of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee earlier the same day that the government may review Japan's economic assistance to south Korea for the next fiscal year should the south Korean dissident leader be executed.

Sunobe Ryozo, Japanese ambassador to Seoul Dec. 1 assured south Korean vice foreign minister Kim Dong Whie that there would be no change in Japan-south Korea relations, despite widespread protests in Japan over the case of Kim Dae Jung, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

7,000 Japanese workers and citizens Nov. 27 held a national meeting for freedom of Kim Dae Jung in Tokyo, urging the Japanese workers and people to take resolute actions to save Mr. Kim.

10-Year Brilliant Development in DPRK

Growth Rate of 15.9% in Industrial Output

In the course of carrying out the tasks of the technical revolution, the DPRK increased quickly production in all branches of the national economy and the foundations of its independent national economy were further consolidated.

Thus, the Six-Year Plan for Development of the National Economy (1971-1976) was fulfilled a year and four months ahead of schedule in total industrial output value and the plan's goal of grain production was attained two years ahead of the set time. On the basis of these achievements the DPRK also pushed ahead with the Second Seven-Year Plan (1978-1984) at a very high rate and scored splendid results in fulfilling the new perspective plan's assignments for three years already by the end of September this year.

The industrial production grew at a high tempo of 15.9 per cent every year between 1970 and 1979 in the DPRK, boosting the total industrial output value 3.8 times, with the production of means of production increasing 3.9 times and consumer goods 3.7 times.

In particular, the industrial production increased 42 per cent in the third quarters of this year as against the same period last year.

With the vigorous advance of the technical revolution, a 1,500 cubic metre large-size blast furnace and the rolling mill of the Kim Chaek Iron and Steel Works, the Youth Chemical Complex, the Sunchon Cement Factory with a production capacity of three million tons and many other highly automated and modernized industrial objects were constructed. In the first two years of the Second Seven-Year Plan alone, nearly 6,000 objects of industrial construction were completed, and a number of major industrial objects of weighty significance for the development of the national economy were finished this year with the approach of the Sixth Congress of the WPK. This year the state allocated 16.6 per cent more fund than last year to the industrial construction.

The production capacities of industries increased noticeably.

The capacity of power production is on the increase in the DPRK with the building of a good many thermal and hydroelectric power stations large in scale.

The thermal power generating capacity in particular doubled in the period from 1970 to 1979 to account for more than 50 per cent of the total.

During the Six-Year Plan period the Unggi and Chongchongang thermal power plants each with a 200,000 kilowatts capacity were commissioned.

The Pukchang Thermal Power Plant was expanded into a gigantic power base with a capacity of 1.2 million kilowatts. The Sodusu Power Station Nos. 1 and 2 were put into operation.

As a result, the 28,000 million kwh target of power envisaged in the Six-Year Plan was hit in 1975.

Later, the construction of the Taedonggang Power No. 1 was completed and the construction of a number of other power stations is being energetically pushed ahead.

The power industry of the DPRK based on home fuel and hydraulic resources has got rid of seasonal restriction in production to satisfactorily meet the demand of the national economy for power under any unfavourable whether conditions.

The recently held Sixth WPK Congress set a goal to produce annually 100,000 million kwh of electricity in the near future.

Many big and small hydroelectric power stations are being built on rivers in all parts of the country. Sluices will be built together with power stations on the Taedonggang, Chongchon and other big rivers.

The cement-producing capacity has increased 2.2 times in the last 10 years in the DPRK.

In Korea per capita cement output reached 287 kg in 1970.

The modern Sunchon Cement Factory with a capacity of three million tons and many small and medium ones have been built and the existing cement factories rebuilt on expansion basis.

As a result, the cement-producing capacity of the country was raised to eight million tons during the Six-Year Plan period.

The DPRK has abundant limestone and clay-slate stone of good quality and coal and has favourable conditions for the development of cement industry.

With the rapid development of the cement industry the DPRK exports not a small amount of cement every year, while fully meeting the demand for cement needed for vast construction projects. Korean cement is highly popular on the world market for its good quality.

The DPRK will attain the goal of annually producing 20 million tons of cement in the near future.

In the 1970's highly efficient automatic machine tools, heavy-duty automobiles, excavators, electronic computers and other modern technical means, the air-tight carbid production method, high-speed spinning process and other advanced technical processes and production methods were introduced on an extensive scale.

A view of Pukchang Thermal Power Station

Rich Harvest Annual Event

Agricultural production also made great progress in the DPRK.

Threshing is now in full swing at all rural villages of Korea visited by an unusually rich harvest.

Despite unfavourable weather conditions, the DPRK has reaped a rich harvest year after year as a result of the thorough application of the Juche method of farming and adoption of various measures for warding off the adverse effects of the cold front.

Over the past ten years the grain production has rapidly increased in the DPRK.

More than 8 million tons of grain was produced in 1976 and 8.5 million tons of grain 1977.

Last year 9 million tons of grain was produced. This is over 2 million tons more than what was produced in the whole area of Korea, north and south, before liberation.

In the DPRK, the per hectare harvest of grain reached 7.2 tons in rice and 6.3 tons in maize last year.

A particular attention is paid to increasing the per hectare yield in boosting grain output in the DPRK where the arable land is limited.

The per hectare yield of grain showed a sharp rise notably in the 1970's to markedly increase the grain output.

The per hectare yield was insignificant in the bygone days. Even in a year of rich harvest the per hectare output of rice was 2 to 3 tons and that of maize no more than one ton.

As a result of the energetic acceleration of the rural technical revolution, mechanization and application of chemistry in farming have expanded considerably and the distinctions between agricultural and industrial labour have greatly diminished.

The number of tractors in agriculture increased sharply after the Fifth Congress of the Party in 1970. Last year there were 7 tractors per 100 hectares of cultivated land in the plain area and 6 in the intermediate and mountain areas. Last year 1.5 tons of chemical fertilizer was applied to each hectare of fields, and weeding was done by chemical means in 97 per cent of the total rice fields.

372 Students for Every 1,000 People

The DPRK directed great efforts to the building of socialist culture and achieved brilliant successes in education. The DPRK holds the highest place in the world in the proportion of students to population. In the 1979-1980 school year the number of students for every 1,000 people was 372.

The educational conditions of Korea were deplorable in the period of the Japanese imperialist colonial rule. At that time there were only 43 middle schools and not a single university in the area of the northern half of the DPRK.

Today there are some 10,000 primary schools and senior middle schools, 516 higher specialized schools and 170 universities and colleges.

Till 1949 illiteracy had been completely done away with in the DPRK where more than 80 per cent of the population was illiterate right after liberation.

There are now a large contingent of one million intellectuals in the northern half of the DPRK, where there were only scores of college- or university- educated technicians at the time of liberation.

In the DPRK universal primary compulsory education was enforced in 1956, universal compulsory secondary education in 1958 for the first time in Asia and universal nine-year technical compulsory education in 1967.

Universal 11-year compulsory education is now in force.

Education expenses are fully borne by the state in the DPRK. Students of higher specialized schools, colleges and universities are given stipends. The state provides students with all expenses for extracurricular activities, experiment and practice, excursion, inspection tour and camping.

The full-time regular school education system and the study-while-working system have been firmly established in the DPRK.

Schools have been set up for a few children in remote mountain villages and even in solitary islands and trains are operated for ten or so school children.

The DPRK will increase the number of colleges and universities and higher education in the future in particular many factory, farm, fishermen's and T.V. colleges will be set up.

10 Perspective Goals In 1980's

The Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea put forward ten long-range goals of socialist economic construction to be attained in the 1980's.

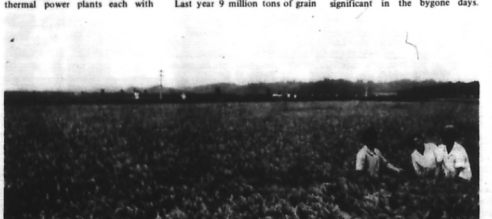
Production will be increased at a high rate in all fields of the national economy to annually turn out, in the near future, 100 000 million kwh of electricity, 120 million tons of coal, 15 million tons of steel, 1.5 million tons of non-ferrous metals 20 million tons of cement 7 million tons of chemical fertilizers, 1 500 million metres of fabrics, 5 million tons of aquatic products, and 15 million tons of grain and reclaim 300,000 chongbo of tideland within the coming ten years.

Then the DPRK will proudly rank among the nations leading the world in economic progress.

In per-capita main industrial output in 1970 the DPRK had already reached the level of developed industrial states and partially surpassed them.

At that time the per-capita output was 1 184 kwh in electricity, 1,975 kilogrammes in coal, 158 kilogrammes in steel, 108 kilogrammes in chemical fertilizers and 287 kilogrammes in cement.

When the long-range goals are attained, the electric output will reach 100,000 million kwh to be over 6 times the 16,500 million kwh in the 1970's and coal output 120 million tons, 4.4 times greater than 27.5 million tons and steel will increase 6.8 times, chemical fertilizers 4.7 times and cement 5 times.



Annual rich harvest visits the DPRK as a result of the thorough application of the Juche method of farming, despite unfavourable weather conditions.

10-Point Policy for Koryo Democratic Confederation

In his historic report to the Sixth Congress of the WPK, President Kim Il Sung advanced a new reunification proposal on bringing together the north and the south into a confederal state as an epochal step for realizing the reunification of the country and explained the principles and ways for the founding of a confederal state and policies to be enforced by it at a time when the desire of the nation for the reunification is rising as never before throughout the country.

The proposal on establishing a unified national government to realize the reunification of the country, while leaving the two systems existing in the north and the south as they are, is a unique one for most correctly solving the national question, the reunification question in a divided country and a fair one reflecting the national desire of the Korean people for the reunification of the country and the demand of the times for an independent and peaceful solution of the Korean question.

President Kim Il Sung propounded the 10-point political programme of a reunified state, in which the home and foreign policies are formulated to suit the nature and mission of a confederal state.

The 10-point political programme of a confederal state—on adhering to independence in all state activities, effecting democracy, bringing about economic cooperation and exchange between north and south, realizing north-south exchange and cooperation in the spheres of science and culture, reopening traffic and communications between the two parts, seeing to the stability of livelihood for the people, organizing a combined national army to defend the country, defending and protecting the national rights of overseas Koreans and coordinating the foreign activities in a unified way and enforcing a peace-loving foreign policy—is a national programme for defending the independence of the nation and the fundamental interests of the Korean people. In essence it is a thorough embodiment of the principles of independence in politics, self-support in economy and self-reliance in military affairs.

The bedrock of a confederal states home and foreign policies is the principle of independence.

A confederal state is an independent and sovereign state which rejects all forms of foreign interference and exercises complete sovereignty in internal and external activities. It will enforce a neutral and independent policy, rejecting to be a satellite of any big nation or join any military bloc and tolerating no alien interference and meddling in the internal affairs of the nation and firmly defend the national independence.

Proceeding from its independent, neutral and peaceful nature, a confederal state will not tolerate the presence of foreign troops, establishment of foreign military bases, production, introduction and use of nuclear weapons but turn the Korean Peninsula into a peace zone, a nuclear-free zone.

In external relations, too, a confederal state, as a unified state representing the whole nation, will develop friendly relations with all countries of the world on the principles of independence, non-interference in internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence.

It is a democratic state which effects democracy in the whole area of the country and in all spheres of society.

Fully ensuring democracy in all spheres of society will be a powerful force strengthening the unity and ties of the nation and promoting social progress and prosperity.

A confederal state will adhere to the principle of self-support in economy.

If the north and the south fill each other s needs, jointly develop the natural resources, make an effective use of the already laid economic foundations and exchange techniques and experiences through economic cooperation and exchange, they will speedily develop the national economy, achieve economic independence and build a rich and powerful, independent and sovereign state.

A confederal state will refrain from encroaching upon the property of capitalists and their business activities conducive to the development of the national economy and continuously ensure the concessions of foreign capital invested in south Korea before the reunification of the country.

This signifies that a confederal state will not restrict or limit the concessions of domestic capital and foreign capital engaged in business activities in south Korea and they will be able to keep their enterprises in south Korea even after the reunification of the country.

A confederal state will eliminate the tension in Korea and carry through the principle of self-reliance in national defence.

To drastically reduce the armed forces of the two sides, abolish the Military Demarcation Line, dismantle the military establishments in its vicinity, dissolve the civilian military organizations, amalgamate the armed forces of the two sides and organized a combined national army is a realistic way of removing the military confrontation between the north and the south and preserving and consolidating peace in Korea.

The 10-point political programme of the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo put forward by President Kim Il Sung brightly indicates the road to be followed by the nation of a reunified and independent, sovereign Korea and fully expounds the principles, direction and ways to be firmly adhered to in all realms of the state activities, political, economic, cultural and military and external relations.

This political programme embodying the immortal Juche idea is a patriotic and democratic programme for reunification which is acceptable to anyone who opposes division and desires reunification, irrespective of idea, political view and religious belief, party affiliation, class and social stratum.

The 10-point political programme of a confederal state is a bright beacon lighting the road ahead of a reunified Korea, a milestone on the road to the national prosperity and thriving and a great national charter most thoroughly defending the nation's sovereignty and the people's independence.

To found a confederal state and reunify the country, all the Koreans at home and abroad should unite under the banner of great national united front.

Brief History of the North-South Dialogue for Reunification (1970-1980)

Aug. 6, 1971: President Kim Il Sung proposed a wide-ranged negotiation at the welcome meeting of Sihanouk.

Sept. 20, 1971: Preliminary talks of the North-South Red Cross Society opened at Panmunjom.

July 4, 1972: A north-south joint statement was issued based on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and national unity.

June 23, 1973: President Kim Il Sung proposed a five-point policy on reunification. The late Pak Jung Hi announced June 23 national division declaration.

Aug. 8, 1973: The Kim Dae Jung kidnap incident occurred; the coordination committee was suspended.

Dec. 9, 1977: Working-level talks of the North-South Red Cross Society were suspended.

Sept. 9, 1978: President Kim Il Sung called for a north-south dialogue in a report made at the meeting for celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK.

Jan. 23, 1979: A joint meeting of political parties and public organisations of the DPRK was held, an independent peaceful reunification promotion program was proposed. (4-point national salvation proposal)

Feb. 17, 1979: The north-south dialogue reopened.

Mar. 14, 1979: North-south contact was suspended by the military exercise, "Team Spirit '79".

Oct. 16, 1979: Pusan, Masan riots

Oct. 26, 1979: Pak Jung Hi was assassinated.

Nov. 9, 1979: Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) stressed in its editorial, "Let Us Find the Way Out for the Nation through Cooperation, Solidarity and Unity!"

Jan. 11, 1980: Kim Il, Vice-President of the DPRK, and Ri Jong Ok, Premier of the Administration Council sent letters proposing negotiation with the south Korean side.

Feb. 6, 1980: The working-level delegates started contacts for a premiers' level meeting between north and south Korea.

Aug. 20, 1980: The DPRK made clear its stand on the 10th contact of the working-level delegates.

Sept. 26, 1980: Contact of the working-level delegates was suspended.

Oct. 10, 1980: President Kim Il Sung made a proposal for founding the DCRK (Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo) in his report delivered at the 6th WPK Congress.

Washington and Seoul On Tireless War Provocation

Washington and Seoul are bent on aggressive act jeopardizing peace in Korea and blocking the way to the country's reunification.

The cases of the violation of the Armistice Agreement committed by the U.S. and its stooges against the DPRK in the skies, on the ground and the sea amount to a total of over 126,800 from November 18, 1975 to November 15 this year.

The U.S. infiltrated a highspeed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" into the airspace above coastal waters of the east and west seas on November 13 and 14 to commit espionage hostile to the DPRK.

The 403rd meeting of the Military Armistice Commission came on Nov. 18 when Pyongyang accused the U.S.-led United Nations Command of violating the Armistice Agreement and rejected its allegations on "a foiled Pyongyang's infiltration attempt" as a fabrication used to cover up American attempts to provoke a new war—this is the sixth MAC meeting this year.

The 398th MAC (Jan. 22, 1980):

Pyongyang denounced the south Korea-U.S. joint exercises code-named "Magex-80" being staged in the area near the Military Demarcation Line and exposed "SR-71" intrusion on 7 occasions (Jan 1-22).

The 399th MAC (Mar. 19):

It came when the largest-scale military exercise "Team Spirit '80" was under way in south Korea. Pyongyang hit the several military exercises such as "Magex '80", "Unfailing Victory," "Joint ROK-U.S. Air Supply Exercise" and "Shield '80" conducted one after another from the beginning of this year.

The 400th MAC (Apr. 3):

It was exposed that the number of gun firings reached over 70 during the period from March 7 to 31 and the violations of the Armistice Agreement and subsequent agreements numbered 292,000 as of the end of March since the armistice.

The 401st MAC (May 20):

It was exposed that a "SR-71" was infiltrated into the DPRK on Apr. 21, May 1 and May 9 and various provocations and violations were committed on 2,480 occasions during the period from April 8 to May 15. Pyongyang also hit a joint mobile exercise codenamed "Cope-Jade-80-2".

The 402nd MAC (June 27):

It was disclosed that a "SR-71" was intruded into the DPRK on May 28 and 30.

World Support for New Reunification Line

U.S.

A U.S. solidarity meeting for democratization of south Korea and peaceful reunification of Korea was held in New York on November 10.

Posters showing the bestial suppression of people by the Chun Doo Hwan gang of murderers in Kwangju were also put up there.

The meeting was attended by personnel of various political parties, public organizations, jurist and press circles of the United States and members of the Committee for Solidarity with the Korean people and champion of human rights.

Among them were the International Secretary, Secretary for Trade Unions and chief in charge of the black movement who are members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the United States of America, the former Chairman of the U.S. National Conference of Black Lawyers, the representative of the World Federation of Trade Unions to the U.N., representative of the International Task Force Mobilization for Survival, the Executive Director of the U.S. Peace Council, the Director of the Asian Centre of Clergy and Laity concerned, and U.S. lawyer Stanley Faulkner, Member of the International Lawyers Committee for Democracy and Human rights in south Korea.

Nepal

A mass meeting supporting the proposal for national reunification put forward by President Kim Il Sung at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea was held on November 13 in Katmandu under the sponsorship of the Nepal-Korea Friendship Association.

The meeting was attended by functionaries of the Nepal-Korea Friendship Association, public figures and men of the press.

A resolution supporting the new proposal of national reunification laid down by President Kim Il Sung was adopted at the meeting amid stormy applause of the attendants.

The resolution says:

Considering that for the peaceful solution of the question of Korean reunification it poses as an urgent task to ease tension and remove the danger of a war, the meeting holds that to this end, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States should directly negotiate with each other to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement as proposed by President Kim Il Sung.

Portugal

Public organisations of Portugal including the Portuguese Committee for the Study of Kimilsungism, the Portuguese Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, the Democratic Lawyers Association of Portugal, the Portuguese Council of Peace and Cooperation, the Democratic Movement of Portugal, the General Trade Union Confederation of Portugal, the Communist Youth of Portugal and the Democratic Movement of Portuguese Women on November 18 made public a joint statement, supporting the new proposal for national reunification advanced by President Kim Il Sung.

The joint statement says:

Fully supporting the new great programme of national reunification put forward by President Kim Il Sung we state as follows.

We strongly demand the present south Korean authorities support this reunification proposal without delay.

We demand the United States withdraw its troops from south Korea at an early date for the reunification of Korea.

Mali

Eight public organisations of Mali — the National Union of Workers of Mali, the National Women's Union of Mali, the National Union of Youth of Mali, the Central Committee of the Mali Red Cross Society, the Mali Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity, the Mali-Korea Friendship Association, the Malian Committee for Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea and the Mali Peace Movement Committee — on November 12 made public a joint statement in support of the new proposal for the reunification of Korea.

The statement said that they strongly demand the south Korean authorities accept the new proposal for national reunification advanced by the DPRK and abolish the military fascist rule and realise the democratisation of society in south Korea.

Seoul-Engineered Anti-Japanese Demonstration

Are the current anti-Japanese campaigns in south Korea a genuine reflection of its population's sentiments over the Kim Dae Jung trial? The answer is categorical NO. A political rally or demonstration is a crime to be punished under martial law now in force throughout south Korea. They are unmistakably being organized with the support of the Chon Du Hwan junta.

The aims of those campaigns are the following: (1) to cast Chon Du Hwan in "a nationalist role free of foreign interference"; (2) to build up a facade of public support for his junta; (3) to make believe that the south Korean people endorse the execution of Kim Dae Jung. In short, they are designed to neutralize the international outcries and lead the public to take the death of the democratic leader for granted.

The present anti-Japanese campaigns, therefore, can be viewed as a strong indication that the Seoul junta is determined to carry out the death sentence of Kim Dae Jung by all means. The Japanese government authorities may use the campaigns to justify their silence and no sanctions against Seoul in case of the execution of the death verdict.

The affair developed on November 11 when Japanese Premier Suzuki expressed "grave concern" to the south Korean ambassador Chot Gyong Rok at the former's official residence, South Korean mass media, now "pliant propaganda organs" of the Chon junta in the words of The New York Times, played up the remark of the Japanese Premier as "interference". "diplomatic blackmailing" and "unwarranted pressure."

The first coverage was made by The Chosun Ilbo, the foremost mouthpiece of the Chon military dictatorship, followed immediately by other dailies, The Dong-A Ilbo, The Chung-Ang Ilbo, The Hanguk Ilbo, The Kyonghyang Sinmun and TV networks. These mass media under tight control of the Blue House are known for their series of stories discrediting Kim Dae Jung in the eyes of the south Korean people without producing any evidence. No fair story has appeared there dealing with the illegal witch trial of the leading dissident.

Significant enough, the south Korean news media reports on the remarks of the Japanese that were "distorted considerably." The Japan Times, a leading English language daily here reported on November 26 quoting a government source.

According to the source, the Japan Times noted that the Premier referred to a possibility that his government would find it difficult to maintain a cooperative relationship with Seoul should former south Korean Opposition leader Kim Dae Jung be executed. The government leader touched on the possibility that a consistent demand voiced by the Japan Socialist Party, the No. 1 Opposition in this country, to further promote Japan's relations with Pyongyang, would gain momentum in the even of Kim's execution.

It is clear, however, that the Seoul junta has no political, economic and military intention and capability to be on an equal footing with its patron. Without Japanese assistance and investment, south Korea would collapse overnight. It is true of American assistance. It is also evident that both Washington and Tokyo have vital stakes in south Korea and have every reason to support their client junta in Seoul.

The presence of Kim Dae Jung, a living symbol of the south Korean aspirations of democracy and reunification, must be viewed as highly embarrassing to both the American and Japanese authorities and to their client junta. His effective removal must be a major boon to them. One diplomatic observer here offers a theory that there should not be any impression, both Washington and Tokyo believe, that they favor the removal of the democratic leader. Any seeming "dispute" with the Seoul junta serves the purpose, he theorizes. According to his view, "regrets" and "concern" expressed in the two capitals may form an evidence that the two countries OK the execution of Kim Dae Jung by hanging.

BY CHAE JUN

The Chon Du Hwan junta must have a "proper justification" for its act, another south Korean watcher thinks. That needed rationale are in the current mass media campaign against Japan and Kim Dae Jung. A question here is why Japan, not the United States, is chosen. An answer is clear. Three experts draw particular attention to the visible undercurrents of strong anti-Japanese sentiments in the Korean society and the "guilt-consciousness" of the Japanese toward their long years of colonial rule over Korea, while there is so far no significant anti-Americanism.

Given this background, it is easy to conclude that the current campaigns are a byproduct of the collaboration between the Japanese and the south Koreans. It is illustrative to recall a series of "anti-Japanese rallies and demonstrations" held in various parts of south Korea over the so-called "presidential assassination attempt" which took place in Seoul on August 14, 1974. Then some 30 prisoners were offered release and a reward of 100,000-150,000 won for cutting off their fingers in public in protest against the Japanese.

Le Monde:

Army Versus 'Chaos'

Follows a gist of the article run in the October 17 issue of the Asahi Evening News: (Writer Philippe Pons, a Seoul correspondent of Le Monde reports on the state of south Korea and its economy after Kim Dae Jung was sentenced to death by a court-martial.)

△

Once again the south Korean military and industrial elite find themselves standing shoulder to shoulder in a fight against what they call "chaos." The army is campaigning for order, disguised as a "national mission," while businessmen are more prosaically concerned with safeguarding their own interests. They would rather see these handled roughly by the generals' populist rhetoric than challenged by workers' demands.

The silence of some Koreans, the evasive answers given by others, and the indifference or resignation of those who do agree to talk about their country's predicament, contrast with noisy demonstrations of support for the "new leader." Impotence and apprehension are part of the numbers that has seized Koreans. The new regime began its rule with the political trial of opposition leader Kim Dae Jung, symbol during the past decade of the democratic struggle, and 23 codefendants. Memories of the repression of the Kwangju riots by paratroops are still fresh: whatever the number of dead (179 according to the authorities, at least twice as many according to other sources), the event made a deep impression because of the army's brutality when it went in.

The newspapers are more restricted than ever in what they can publish, but nobody remains uninformed about what happened, and there's little doubt in the minds of many that Chun played a part. It's just as obvious that "Parkism" failed to endow the country, with its ancient civilization and high level of education, with institutions that could respond to the hopes of its people.

During the decade just past, diplomats and other foreign observers were obsessed by economic progress, forfetting that it was attained at the cost of sacrificing basic democratic principles and a certain number of civilized norms. To deny Koreans the right to choose their leaders puts the country at risk.

Under Park, the army was closely involved in running things: both government and public enterprises were staffed by a number of important ex-generals. Now behind and with President Chun, the military is still running the country.

His regime doesn't seem to differ much from Park's either in its constitution, whose final draft is to be ready in October, or in its institutions, its authoritarianism, its centralization of power, and in its reduction of the National Assembly to the role of rubber stamp (some of its members, it is said, may now be chosen on a corporatist basis).

Earlier this year, politics were dominated by the battle of the "three Kims:" Kim Jong Pil, president of the ruling Democratic Republican Party; Kim Yong Sam, head of the opposition New Democratic Party; and Kim Dae Jung.

Of the three, the one the army detests most is Kim Dae Jung.

The military want to eliminate both the man and the myth. Kim Dae Jung is "dangerous." In 1971, running against Park in the presidential elections, he obtained 45 percent of the vote. In 1978, his party won a majority of votes in the general elections, but not the majority in the Assembly, where a third of the members were appointed by Park.

Another unknown is the reaction of the inhabitants of Cholla province, which has Kwangju for its capital. Repression has consolidated the ranks of population. How will it react to the execution of Kim Dae Jung, a native of Cholla? The Cholla students who have made their way to Seoul are the most radical of all. They form an undoubtedly disorganized but strong minority unwilling to accept things as they are. One of them told me: "It may take months, but one day the students will take to the streets again — because the rule."

He went on to assert that one should make allowances for the fact that in a single eleven-month period Korea has been subjected to the assassination of President, student riots, an armed rebellion, and several installments of a military coup. Worst of all, he says, the economy, a year for the first time since 1956, Korea may show a stagnant or even negative growth rate after 20 record-breaking years of progress.

Since 1978 Korea has had to face new problems. In a less favorable international context, one of the mechanisms of Korean development, inflation, which allowed a rapid reduction in borrowing costs and spurred investment, has begun to work in reverse, reducing the competitiveness of the export industries which were prime factors in the economic "miracle." The rise in oil prices, increased debts, the growth slowdown and the shrinking of foreign markets all rendered corrective measures inoperative in 1979.

The political uncertainty which followed Park's death, the paralysis of a bureaucracy able to carry out orders but unused to taking responsibilities, the conflicts of authority between ministries and delays in making decisions have all simply aggravated the problems by postponing necessary measures.

Along with rationalizing production, the government expects to put the accent on readjusting energy overheads. So far, Korea's economic growth has been wasteful of both wages and oil: the 200 million barrels for 1980 represent some 35 percent of the value of exports. In the long run, Korea plans to shift its economy towards industries with a strong value-added bias but which demand more technology. For the moment, however, it has to adhere to a policy of strict wage curbs in order to regain a competitive edge in foreign markets.

In recent years, thanks to domestic and imported inflation, the rise in wage overheads has been enormous. Early this year there was a rash of wage demands that employers dubbed "unrealistic." A government little inclined to compromise will undoubtedly forbid any pay rises in the coming months, which means that once again the least privileged classes will have to shoulder the cost of economic recovery in country where social welfare policies are virtually nonexistent.

Will the regime's populist propaganda suffice to allay mass unrest? Economists point out that Korea has no choice: the trade deficit ($4,500 million in 1979) can't be reduced this year because the bill for oil has doubled, increasing import costs by $3,000 million. Nor is there any expectation of balancing current payments, whose deficit last year amounted to $4,200 million, four times what it was in 1978. This year it could reach as much as $6,000 million. The situation means a steady increase in the foreign debt. In 1980, Korea will have to borrow between $7,000 million and $8,000 million, a hefty portion of which will simply go into gaying off financing charges.

The U.S., in regard both to the resignation of President Choi Kyu Hah, which paved the way to the official accession of Chun, and the death sentence of Kim Dae Jung, symbol of the political opposition, has limited itself to proffering sentiments of "concern," sometimes qualified as "deep." During August, when Chun consolidated his hold on the country, such highranking American representatives as Ambassador William H. Gleysteen and General Kenneth Gregory Wickham, commander in chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in Korea, were absent from Seoul.

In the past eleven months the United States seems to have lost a credibility in Korea which it is unlikely to regain soon, and which, in more than one respect, was exceptional: contrary to the rest of Asia, in Korea both the government and the opposition were pro-American. Now the Americans are looked on by the former as "paper tigers," and by the latter as hypocrites.

A year ago on a visit to Seoul President Carter declaimed that economic progress must be accompanied by parallel progress in regard to human rights, but the generals showed that all you had to do was stand up to the Americans to make them back down from their principles. As for the opposition, the majority of whom are liberal or conservative, they now know that the U.S. will let them be crushed without raising a finger – or almost

With 40,000 troops stationed in Korea for the past 30 years, the U.S. has had a responsibility to this country of an entirely different kind than it has had to its neighbor Japan, where it is content with making its capital bear fruit. Rarely has the thwarting of a people's hopes for democracy aroused so little emotion on the part of international public opinion, American in particular.

There would appear to be two

(Continued on page 5)

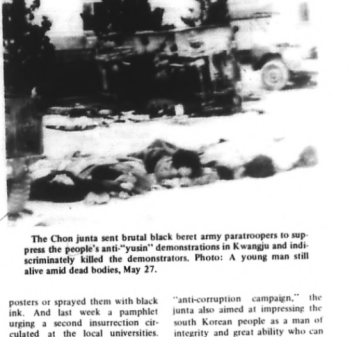
Chon Du Hwan's Anti-Democratic Acts

The south Korean general called Chon Du Hwan said in a grave tone: "It is time to Koreanize democracy." Then, after proclaiming the extension of martial law over the whole country, the 49-year-old young general put into practice what he had preached: the Kwangju Massacre; nation-wide "anti-corruption campaigns"; cancellation of licenses of major publications; merger of major newspapers and broadcasting companies. These acts put an end to the democratization process which had been developing slowly since the late strongman's assassination, and these acts clearly characterized what Chon-style democracy is.

Human Rights Suppression

First, he has ignored the basic human rights of south Korean people involved in the movement for democracy and human rights, arrested them in the name of "anti-communism" and "national security." It sounds reasonable that democracy should develop in different ways in different countries, but doesn't democracy entail respecting the fundamental rights of the people?

The martial law declaration throughout the whole of the country was followed within hours by a mass arrest of student leaders and others, who were charged with violating martial law decrees. The mass arrest was followed by the Kwangju Massacre in which thousands of people including the old and infants were killed when Chon Du Hwan-led black beret paratroopers clashed with demonstrators demanding an end to martial law and restoration of democracy. The Kwangju Massacre showed clearly that Chon Du Hwan would use more brutal methods in suppressing the people's movements for democracy than his mentor, slain dictator Pak Jung Hi. The Kwangju people will never forget the atrocities committed by the martial law troops. The surging anger of the Kwangju citizens is clearly seen in an article written by the Seoul correspondent of Newsweek: "Although the presence of the troops precludes any likelihood of revolt, a spirit of rebellion still smolders in Kwangju. Protesters poke holes in the eyes of Chon Du Hwan's picture on magazine covers. The day after his inauguration as President, they cut up his campaign posters or sprayed them with black ink. And last week a pamphlet urging a second insurrection circulated at the local universities. 'Do not stand still,' it said." (The Oct. 6 issue of the magazine)



The Chon junta sent brutal black beret army paratroopers to suppress the people's anti-"yusin" demonstrations in Kwangju and indiscriminately killed the demonstrators. Photo: A young man still alive amid dead bodies, May 27.

The Kwangju Massacre stirred up public awareness of the role of the U.S. in the murder of democracy and anti-Americanism. The south Korean grass roots had already realized the main content of Chonstyle democracy backed by Washington when the junta threw the heavily armed paratroopers into the city to indiscriminately kill the demonstrators, and when the U.S. actively collaborated in suppressing the demonstrators.

Following the Kwangju Massacre, the junta continuously killed the dissident leaders, including leading figures of the student movements by trying them to the court-martial. The most explosive of the trials which have followed the Kim Dae Jung case took place in Kwangju in absolute secrecy before a five-man military tribunal at an army base just outside the city.

When international attention is focused on Kim Dae Jung's trial, hundreds of other dissidents also face court-martial, charged with participating in the springtime protests. Recently, five codefendants of the hundreds of dissidents were executed by hanging.

Purge of Pol. Foes

Second, Chon Du Hwan has got rid of his political foes by waging an intensive "anti-corruption campaign" and consolidated his one-man dictatorial rule by rallying the supporters around his inner circles. The purge of nearly 10,000 public servants and journalists and a total of 835 politicians (of them 238 have been recently allowed to engage in political activities) are part of this policy. Both opponents and proponents of the late strongman's "yusin" system are victims of this new policy. The resignation of interim "president" Choi Gyu Ha is also not unrelated to it. The victims include three Kims – Kim Dae Jung, now given a death sentence on sedition charges; Kim Yong Sam, a former Opposition NDP leader; and Kim Jong Pil, Pak Jung Hi's likeliest successor and an architect of the 1961 military coup which had brought Pak to power; Pak Chong Kuo, former chief bodyguard of Pak; and Chong Il Kwon, former national assembly speaker who had successfully survived several previous purges.

A list of purged persons clearly indicates the extensive scope of the "purification drive." A former MP from the NDP said: "I've been expecting this, but the list is so extensive I can't possibly find words to express my feelings. How the Chun government can achieve national concord and harmony through these political reprisals is hard to tell." (The November 21 issue of the Far Eastern Economic Review) Through the deceptive "anti-corruption campaign," the junta also aimed at impressing the south Korean people as a man of integrity and great ability who can become a supreme policy maker. The May 20 issue of the New York Times said: "By arresting some of the wealthiest cronies of his mentor, President Park, General Chon has purged the ruling Democratic Republican Party of discredited but well-known political leaders who may have been able to buy an election, thereby creating a vacuum into which a future leader more to his liking perhaps himself could enter."

The "purification movement" was initiated by the 25 member "Committee for Emergency Measures for National Security" composed of cabinet members, generals and a few others. The committee chairman was the then Major General Chon Du Hwan and he also headed the standing committee which was technically subordinated to the committee and handled day to day affairs. In fact, he utilized these committees as his main instruments of government.

In addition, Chon, who had been acting head of the KCIA until June 2, purged 300 KCIA officials. More than 8,000 other civil servants and employees in government enterprises were fired in July. Banks and companies have been purged also. This was carried out by making each institution or organization discharge 5 percent or more of its personnel. More than 600 teachers and education officials were dismissed in early August.

Crackdown on Mass Media

Third, Chon Du Hwan launched a massive crackdown on the mass media and ordered major newspapers and broadcasting companies to be merged in order to turn them into his official mouthpieces.

In order to make sure that the "purification drive" is received favourably by the south Korean citizens and the world, and to keep a lid on the horrible truth about Kwangju and the massive arrests of dissidents, the Chun junta launched a massive crackdown on mass communications. As a result, over 100 reporters including daily newspapers were dismissed, 172 weekly and monthly publications banned, and at least 11 campus papers ordered suspended. Furthermore, in late July, south Koreans working for AP, the New York Times, Reuter, and for two Japanese news services were detained and questioned concerning their reporting activities. This was the first time reporters that south Koreans for foreign news bureaus were detained.

In addition, the Orient Press which is known as Tongyang News Agency and Hapdong News Agency were merged into a single agency and two commercial radio stations were closed down, to be absorbed by the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (BS), and the semi-official Munhwa Broadcasting Company, respectively.

Seoul's Newly-Found Parties: Rabble of "Yusin" Remnants

Amid a renewed crackdown on the so-called "anti-social elements" by the Chon Du Hwan junta, a new political party named the "Democratic Justice Party" surfaced in south Korea on November 28. According to the Japanese press reports, this is the fifth political party now in the making in south Korea. On Nov. 26 18 former Opposition NDP (New Democratic Party) lawmakers inaugurated a preparatory committee to organize an "opposition party" tentatively named the "Democratic Korea Party." Besides the two major rival parties, what the junta calls a "progressive party" named the "Socialist Party" was founded on Nov. 30.

These moves were initiated since martial law command on Nov. 21 partially lifted a general ban on political activities imposed last May, now allowing only indoor meetings for the purpose of creating political parties. The aim of partial lift of the ban on political activities is to pave Chon Du Hwan and his followers the way to found a their own party and to consolidate his one-man dictatorial system. In other words, the aim is to publicize its intention to guarantee Chon-style democracy.

The current moves are a follow-up of the purge of 835 politicians over the next seven years and eight months until June 30, 1988. The total of 835 meant that the whole of the previous national assembly membership had been removed, except for 16 who joined the newly appointed interim legislature which passed the political reform law. On November 25 of the 268 politicians or 32.1 percent, were rehabilitated by the "political renovation committee." As a result, those 567 politicians have no chance of returning to politics over the next seven-and-half years – virtually over 14 years. Key members of the Democratic Republican Party (DRP) and NDP, are to remain out of politics. They include, besides the three Kims – Kim Dae Jung, Kim Yong Sam, and Kim Jong Pil – Choi Sung Chul Seung, former NDP leader who widely accused of collaboration with the former regime of assassinated president Pak Jung Hi; former national assembly speaker Chung Il Kwon; and former DRP leaders Rhee Nyo Sang and Park Joon Kyu.

Issuing a special statement upon the resumption of political activities Chon Du Hwan said on Nov. 22 that a newly-found party must be directed totally to the promotion of the "national interest" and the "welfare of the people". However, the new ruling party is composed of the slain strongman's "yusin" followers. The party is composed of the so-called "military elites". The "military elites," who have taken a major role in the suppression of the people's anti-"government" movement since Pak's assassination, include the members of "the National Conference for Unification," the rubber-stamp electoral college, *yujonghoe*, and the supporters of the "new village movement" which is under the control of late strongman's elder daughter Park Kun Hae. Also present are supporters with the mass media, the academic world and other fields. Thus, the junta tries to demonstrate the public the new image of the party as representing the whole wishes of broad strata of the society.

The so-called progressive party named "Socialist Party" was found on Nov. 29 by such persons Lee Dong Hwa, former chairman of the disbanded United Socialist Party; Shin Do Sung, former Unification Board minister; Koo Ik Kyun, Song Nam Hon; and Koh Chong Hun. They are the wirepullers of the late strongman Pak Jung Hi. They alleged at the press conference held on Nov. 29 that they would welcome labor union leaders, members of the Korea Urban Industrial Mission, and members of farmers' organizations.

(Continued from page 4)

possibilities: either Washington's passivity is a manifestation of U.S. inability to influence the situation, or it bears witness to tacit approval. The two factors seem intertwined. If one omits the U.S. for having wanted a change for the better after Park's death, its impotence to influence events is patent, particularly in reference to the fate of Kim Dae Jung. In 1973, it was pressure from Washington that persuaded Park to give up the idea of finishing Kim off when he had been kidnapped by the Korean CIA. This time, not only did the Americans appear to have known nothing of the treatment inflicted on Kim, but they have apparently obtained to guarantee that his life will be spared.

If we delve deeper into the story of American-Korean relations, we see that the U.S. once played a much more active role than it does now.

After his coup, Park had to win U.S. acceptance by giving satisfaction on two points: first, by normalizing relations with Japan, and second, by sending troops to Vietnam, something no Asian country wanted to do. This time, President Chun seems to have imposed himself on the Americans without having had to agree to the smallest compromise.

For several months now, it appears that the U.S. command in Korea has not been hostile to a strong regime. In statement attributed to Wickham in August, which Seoul pounced on as "proof" of American support, the general noted that in January a few young colonels came to warn him of their intention to unseat Chun, but that he dissuaded them. The general affirmed that the U.S. was ready to support Chun's regime on condition that he demonstrate his "popularity," but the State Department declared that his statement did not reflect the official U.S. position. In fact, Wickham's declaration seemed to be regarded by the Americans as primarily "inopportune." Yet it did express a position which, in the absence of any other clearly defined policy, seemed to be that of the U.S.

Hedging by the Americans in recent months has, it seems, lost them support on all fronts. The military, who by their nature understood power alone, saw the U.S. as weaker and more pliable than they had thought. The regime's opponents, taking the measure of their isolation, felt the U.S. was no longer providing even moral support. During the 18 years of the Park regime, his adversaries here had illusions about American support, but they did have relative confidence in the U.S.

The political know how Park managed to acquire in his relations with the U.S. – when he had to, he could take one step back in order to take two forward immediately – allowed Washington to preserve relative credibility among dissidents. Park's death could have been an occasion for the U.S. to heighten its prestige. Instead, the event revealed what the ambiguous dealings with the defunct regime concealed: the absence of any American desire to encourage the democratization of Korea.

America's loss of credibility among the Korean opposition is obvious, particularly since the military authorities have shrewdly manipulated America's hesitations to give the impression in a controlled press that Washington has lent full support to their policies, notably the army's intervention in Kwangju and the takeover by General Chun.

Japanese Monthly "Sekai"

Letters from So Brothers (2)

(Continued from the previous issue)

The seventh day after mother's death passed. I spent the night, sitting in front of her photo, thinking only of my mother, as I didn't know how to behave properly on such an occasion.

When I was doing so, I recalled to my mind your figure, Yong Sil, I had seen. I was beside myself when I met you and I didn't have time to think how you felt. When I think of your feeling of loss, agony and sorrows, I now feel my heart wrung.

Eight years ago, I was hospitalized to undergo an operation and was bandaged all over. I perspired all over. I breathed faintly, blowing out deep green ether like a fountain in a dreamy state, when I was beginning to regain consciousness. Mummy and you, Yong Sil, passed the night without sleep in the sickroom and with sleepless eyes.

I can vividly picture you to my eyes as you were sitting beside my bed, nodding in a doze. I have put mummy and you, Yong Sil, to so much trouble: You have had to visit me in prison for a long time.

Yong Sil, you visited the prisons with mother on school holidays. How did you feel when you came to me with a portrait of our late mother by air . . . ."

I have been able to live thanks to the efforts of various people. In particular, thanks to mummy and you, Yong Sil. I can not thank you too much as you were a great help and solace to mother in her old age.

I know what a hard time you had in the last several months of her life, taking care of our sick mother.

Nowadays I am trying to think of life with the mind of a high-school boy. I am thinking of the uncertainty of life. There is a saying that nor harvest of wheat can be won, if a grain foes not die. The man is fated to live in sorrow and agony. As mummy said, it is best for a man to do his best, to live earnestly and to die gracefully. Mummy, you lived such a life. It is said that the woman is beautiful and the mother is great. Mummy, you were great. Yong Sil, you should also the great mother in you. Yong Sil, take good care of yourself. I, too, will do my best to live earnestly, even if I don't know what is the best thing.

(June 15, 1980) From So Sung

Sultry days are continuing. However, I have spent 31 summers and now I know the summer is the same intolerable. It may be rather a happy time for a man, if he can complain "how hot, how hot," fanning himself with a fan in hand. Struggles between people and noisy circumstances which drive people to their work, give them not a moment's respite, but at the same time make them forget deeper sorrows and sufferings. The sounds of trains as they depart and arrive at Taejon Station reach me through the stillness of night. The sounds made my heart burst with sorrow, now they no longer torment me.

Mummy, I still remember you clearly. I will never forget you even when I become old, my teeth and my hair go and even when I am a crumpled and wrinkled thing. On the day just before expiry of my term, mummy and you waited for me in front of the Chonju prison in the gathering dusk, on my way back to the prison from the public prosecutors office where I had been called. You waved at me as I passed in the prison van. I will never forget what I saw on the very day of the expiry of my term—I glanced at you from the prison van as it left jail. Whenever I have a shot of hooch and be slightly tipsy, many, many years from now if it may be, I will speak of mummy and you to everyone who will happen to be around me.

But mummy, please strain yourself. If you really think of me, I wish you will be always cool and calm. I wish you will live so that you may not be called by other the mother of "an undutiful son."

Mummy, you wanted to feed me on a full stomach after I served my term and to see me married. However, your hopes have been blighted. My ambition, to drink homebrew heartily, disappeared like a bubble.

But mummy, with a modest mind to try to go back to the starting point, you come in front of the iron gate of the prison, and leave. Each time you do so, all my love to you, the love of this stupid son of yours.

(July 15, 1978)

There was frost everywhere on the ground and they may be having ice in the mountain districts. It has been so amply cold since several days ago. Underwear clothes put in the storage house during the summer have already been taken out. Yesterday, a coverlet was also brought to me. Preparations have been made to an extent for the long, long winter.

The earth is going to enter the winter, the winter which seems to deepen bottomlessly, the winter which will enable me to attain a further mental growth, the winter which will bring me into a thick ice of remorse and regrets, as I listen to the slumber of all things on earth.

When I think of winter, I remember Sung (my elder brother) as he washed things in cold water with his benumbed fingers.

I don't know what was mentioned about me in Sung's letter that made my mother weep to read it. All of us (including Yong Sil) may have come to shed more tears like weak old people as we get older.

Mummy, the memory of "good things in bygone days" seems to have the power to mollify the hearts of the wickedest people. It has the power to open even the hard fist like rock.

I also cherished my memory of those days when my elder brother loved me his stupid brother so tenderly.

But mummy, "things in bygone good days" might not have been so good as we think at this moment they were. The sad present moment may not seem so sad in the far distant future. Mummy, please do not forget this.

Please do not let your illusion about "things in bygone good days" deceive you. Even if you may sigh deeply for your sons, please don't shed tears like a weak old woman.

(Oct. 12, 1978)

Mummy, weather is fine these days. You may be enjoying fine autumn days. Mummy, have you already gone out to enjoy tinted autumnal leaves?

I always wish you will be the mother of the old days when you liked to take us to a walk in the mountain and fields.

Mummy, no one can live without sorrow. Mummy, I am determined to fight against the wrong idea that I should live, turning my back to all the people in the world, because I seem to be despised and ignored.

(November, 1978)
From So Chun Shik

SHORT STORY

Signalman First Class (5)

By Pak Wung Gol

(Continued from the No. 1018 issue of the People's Korea)

He touched the live wire with one hand and the current shot through him. His wound pained more. The muscles of his arm convulsed. Suddenly he remembered seeing once the arm-muscle convulsions from electric shocks! Yes. That was mother's. Suppose, he told himself, I let the current run through me, then, perhaps the telephone message will be through. I will give everything—even my life—for the cause of victory in the war. And the thought calmed him. His heart was as serene as the blue sky he had seen a few moments before. Yes, he felt good.

Once he and his mother had withstood the enemy's shock treatment. Now certainly he could stand it, he assured himself. Then the message would go through and the enemy be smashed. Even if it means death, I shall do it, he told himself.

The pain in the chest became worse and his strength was fast waning. Perhaps the end is not too far away, he thought. But he was not sad, nor fearful, only concerned. What would happen if he should die before he connected the line?

Mustering all his strength he picked up the two ends with his hands and coiled one around a finger of either hand.

As the current rushed through his arm muscles convulsed. To make sure the message was going through, he connected the receiver to the one end of the line and listened.

The pain became unbearable—like a knife slashing at his very being. He lay down in the crater, concentrating on the receiver. There was a faint dialing sound. The wound was searing, but he bit his lips. He could feel the current running through his body becoming weaker.

At last he heard a voice: "Rakdonggang! Rakdonggang!" It was the platoon leader's. One minute it was off, then on again. Must be the connection was not too good. Nam Gil gripped the wires with all his strength. He figured the other end did not hear the signal, as the company side was dialing. It was agony for Nam Gil but he tried to endure it. The receiver rang until his ears were deafened. Yet Nam Gil was sure—what he was holding was the only place broken in the line, he was connecting the line, and the message would go through. Suddenly, he felt the current becoming weaker. Again the words: "Daedonggang!" "Daedonggang!" But the battalion was silent. Now Nam Gil did not know what to do. Of course, he himself should relay the message since he had the transmitter on. But both his hands were holding the lines and there was no way of bringing down the transmitter to his mouth. If he reaches with one hand for transmitter the connection would be cut.

The party was still calling "Daedonggang, Daedonggang!" He tried to bring the transmitter to his mouth without using the hands. He rubbed his face against his shoulder hoping the receiver-transmitter would fall off, but it was firmly fixed on his head. He began calling "Daedonggang, Daedonggang," too, as the company commander was doing. Then there was another voice—"Rakdonggang, Rakdonggang!" and he could discern distinctly it was the platoon leader's. Now Nam Gil strained his ears to catch the words.

"Rakdonggang?"

"Right!"

The voices sounded very excited. Evidently, now a different person took over the phone on the one end of the line. It was the battalion commander.

"Hello, is this Rakdonggang?"

"Right! Is this the battalion commander?"

Now Nam Gil was sure the line had been restored completely. He gripped the lines tightly lest his strength fail and he interrupt the conversation. The company commander was speaking:

"Hurry with bombardment. Range is the same; 100 meters to the left from the present position. The enemy are moving toward that point, apparently to climb up from there."

"What is the enemy's strength?"

"About a battalion. We've only three hand-grenades."

"We'll send ammunition over right away."

Now, Nam Gil was so overwhelmed—he knew that an important message had gone through him—he was almost in tears. He felt no more pain. He only wished someone had been with him to share his joy.

The conversation lasted a few more minutes before both hung up.

The knowledge that the conversation was over gave Nam Gil a sense of relaxation. A faint smile appeared on his lips. He lay looking at the dark star-spangled sky. Panoramic pictures floated before his eyes. Now he could see his mother's face.

* * * * *

He came to when the platoon leader lifted him up. It was a medic who found him lying there, and dressed his wound. But the medic knew Nam Gil was in a serious condition. He had lost much blood. His case seemed hopeless.

Nam Gil opened his eyes and spoke to the platoon leader and comrades in a weak voice:

"Platoon leader! Li Nam Gil, Signalman First Class, has finished with all the repairs on the line!"

"Good job! But, now, be steady. We're going to take you to the field hospital."

The platoon leader was fighting to hold back the tears. But Nam Gil shook his head and murmured, "I know!"

On the ridge, freed from the enemy's onslaught, not a single shell fell. The blue sky was calm and serene.

February 8, 1952 **(Concluded)**

Korean Paintings

"Scene of Onion-ri"

By Chon Yong Sik

Achievements in Study of Korean History (1)

Introduced here the first instalment of a glst of the speech made by Pak Shi Hyong, Professor of Kim Il Sung University and one of the top historians of the DPRK on Nov. 7 at the science hall, Tokyo, on the ancient history of Korea.

He visited Japan from Oct. 27 to Nov. 10 as head of a DPRK cultural and science delegation at the invitation of the Solidarity Committee of Japan – DPRK Social Scientists.

Korea has a long history and a brilliant cultural tradition. Korean history, however, was distorted and erroneous descriptions were deliberately made in the past. Therefore, it was an urgent matter after the liberation to correct falsifications and confusion in Korean history and study it scientifically.

Paleolithic Age

After the liberation, one of the important results achieved by historians in the DPRK was that some light came to be thrown on the paleolithic age in Korea.

An erroneous idea, once dominant, was that the first inhabitants of Korea came from the northern part of the continent in the neolithic age.

However, remains of the paleolithic age were excavated in various places in the DPRK. Then, it was amply proved that the Korean Peninsula was inhabited by men in the early paleolithic age and that the first inhabitants developed into paleoanthropic men and into the neanthropic men.

Follow some examples:

In 1966–68, a limestone cavern was found in Komunmol, Sangwon county, Pyongyang, belonging to the early Quaternary. Some 29 kinds of fossils of vertebrates and stone tools including trapezoid stone tools were excavated. Among the fossilized animals were perissodactyla such as hyenas, elephants and jackals and small animals, including field mise. Seventy percent of all the fossilized animals became all extinct. These remains, from geological point of view, belong to the early Quaternary 400–600 millenniums ago.

In 1972–73 a grotto was unearthed at Mt. Sungri, Tokchon county, South Pyongan Province. Found there fossil bones of paleoanthropic men, who are now called "Tokchon people", and the neanthropic men called "Sungrian people." The former were 100 millenniums old and the latter were 30–40 millenniums old. These remains belonged to the middle paleolithic age and 29 kinds of fossil animals were excavated.

In 1962, the relics belonging to the paleolithic age were discovered at Kulpo-ri, Unggi county, North Hamgyong Province, where a large number of stone tools were exhumed belonging to the middle paleolithic age about 100,000 years ago and in the late paleolithic age about 40,000–30,000 years ago. Similar paleolithic remains were excavated at Sokchang-ri, Changgimyon, Kongju county, South Chungchong Province and Chongok-ri, Ryonchon county, Kyonggi Province in south Korea.

These facts proved that the paleolithic age existed on the Korean Peninsula and people have lived since the paleolithic age in this land.

Neolithic Age

A wrong view on Korean history was:

Korean history began in the neolithic age. This originated in the insistence that tribal people with cornware (pottery decorated with incised lines or scatches resembling those made by passing the teeth of a comb) moved into the Korean Peninsula from the northern area, and that on the other hand, other tribes went up northward from the Southeast Asia to settle in the southern area of the Korean Peninsula.

But remains of the neolithic age were discovered in tens of places after the liberation and they proved that the above-mentioned view was completely wrong. The neolithic age of Korea was originally created by the inhabitants who had lived since the paleolithic age on the Korean Peninsula.

The neolithic age of Korea began in the 5,000s B.C. and continuously developed its original culture in the 3,000s B.C.

The inhabitants in this period mainly lived on primitive farming and used brown stone vessels with engraved patterns. The neolithic culture of Korea was the same in both north and south and from this, the tribes of those days in the north and the south were of the same ancestry.

The following are important remains proving Korea's neolithic culture. The remains excavated at Kungsan-ri, Onchon county, South Pyongan Province, belong to the middle neolithic age about 4,000 B.C. The brown earthenware with engraved patterns were used by them, who also grew crops. This "Kungsan oulture" covered the country widely. (The neolithic culture in west Korea is called "Kungsan culture" which is mainly represented by vessels with engraved patterns. "Kungsan culture" is the common name given the neolithic remains which have the same cultural aspects as those found for the first time at Kungsan-ri . . . Ed.).

The oldest remains of Korea's neolithic age were found in 1960–65 at the Sopohan remains, Kulpo-ri, Unggi county, North Hamgyong Province. The inhabitants of this area belonging to an era of about 5,000 B.C. engaged in farming using brown earthenware without patterns.

In 1905, remains of the later neolithic age were exhumed at Kumnan-ri Sadong district, Pyongyang, which were of a primitive culture of about 3,000 B.C. of Korea.

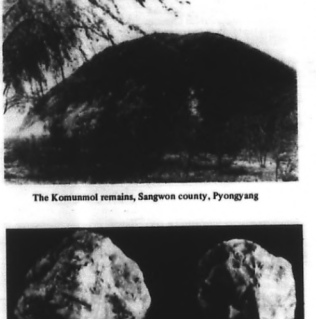
In the upper stratum of these remains were remains of the bronze age, which indicated a development of the neolithic age to the bronze age. In addition to this, numerous neolithic age remains were found, which proved the fact that the neolithic age continued from about 5,000 B.C. to the early 1,000s B.C. and that its extent covered the vast areas of Northeast Asia with the Korean Peninsula as the center.

Bronze Age

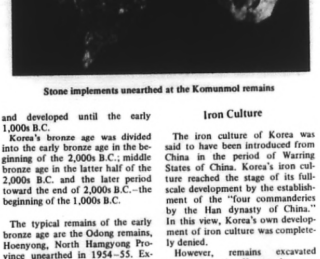
A wrong view, which was once widely accepted, on the bronze age of Korea as follows.

Korea did not have the bronze age, while the bronze age and iron cultures were simultaneously brought into Korea by immigrations during the period of the Warring States of China; Korean inhabitants in the neolithic age had not experienced the bronze age and entered the iron age in the course of hundreds of years–a "period in which metal and stone instruments were used" under the influence of China. This "view" also insisted that the "establishment of four commanderies" by China under the Han dynasty was instrumental in developing Korea from the primitive age to metal culture on the Korean Peninsula. In this way, this wrong view serves as a justification of colonization."

Archaeologists of the DPRK unearthed some 200 specimens of the bronze age, demonstrating that Korea's bronze age was not transplanted by others, but was produced independently on the Korean Peninsula in the early 2,000s B.C.



The Komunmol remains, Sangwon county, Pyongyang



Stone implements unearthed at the Komunmol remains

and developed until the early 1,000s B.C.

Korea's bronze age was divided into the early bronze age in the beginning of the 2,000s B.C.; middle bronze age in the latter half of the 2,000s B.C. and the later period toward the end of 2,000s B.C.–the beginning of the 1,000s B.C.

The typical remains of the early bronze age are the Odong remains, Hoenyong, North Hamgyong Province unearthed in 1954–55. Excavated there were implements such as simple chisels and augers and ornaments which were made of bronze.

Representative remains of the middle bronze age were the Songhwi-ri remains, Kanggye city, Chagang Province, unearthed in 1956.

Bronze culture in this period belonged to a rising period, when various kinds of bronze ornaments were produced and stone tool making techniques advanced. Earthenware items were brown and were devoid of patterns, like those of the neolithic age.

Korea's original peg-topped earthenware was used in some area of Korea. This was produced by further developing the vessels with engraved patterns of the neolithic age.

The Kansan (8–7 centuries, B.C.) and the Rangsang (7–5 centuries, B.C.) tombs were representative remains of the later bronze age. These tombs were of big-slave owners. About 140 slaves were buried, an indication of the emergence and development of slave-owning states in Korea.

Found there were lute-shaped stilettoes, which were fundamentally different from those found in other places. The shapes are original and the hilt and the hilt top were separable. This is a clear evidence that Korea's bronze age was not introduced there by others, but an original one. Dolmens in this period were characteristic.

Iron Culture

The iron culture of Korea was said to have been introduced from China in the period of Warring States of China. Korea's iron culture reached the stage of its full-scale development by the establishment of the "four commanderies by the Han dynasty of China." In this view, Korea's own development of iron culture was completely denied.

However, remains excavated prove that the Korean iron age began in the early 1,000s B.C.

In 1959–61, remains of the iron age were excavated at the Hogok-dong, Musan county, North Hamgyong Province. The Musan remains were found in the upper stratum of the bronze-age stratum, from where iron axes and others were exhumed. The iron axes were found to be made of iron ore of the Musan mine. They belong to the 7–5 centuries B.C. Among the remains of the iron age are ruins of houses, tombs and others in about 30 places in all. The unearthed articles include instruments and weapons, beginning into iron axes, daggers, chisels and farming instruments such as weeding hoes and sickles.

In the latter half period of the 1,000s B.C. Korea entered the stage where iron came to be widely used: Iron began to be used for daily instruments in the 3–2 centuries B.C. and a large amount of iron tools and utensils were produced in the same period.

In the iron age, already-established ancinet states such as Kochoson, Puyo and Chinguk, developed and their ancient cultures achieved a high level. . . . .

Together with the development of iron culture, the ancient bronze culture further developed. Lute-shaped stilettoes developed into slender stilettoes, while bronze mirrors and bronze bells became more refined retaining their original forms.

(To be continued)

(Subtitles are ours. . . . Ed.)

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

Oct. 24

* An agreement on commodity delivery and payments for 1981–1985 and a protocol on commodity delivery and payments for 1981 between the governments of the DPRK and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic were signed in Prague.

Oct. 28

* A government trade delegation of Bangladesh headed by M. Matiur Rahman, Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, arrived in Pyongyang by plane.
* A Chinese public health delegation headed by Yang Shoushan, Vice-Minister of Public Health of China, arrived in Pyongyang by train.

Oct. 29

* The protocol of the 16th meeting of the inter-governmental economic and scientific-technological consultative committee of the DPRK and the Soviet Union was signed in Pyongyang.
* Idrisou Sou Ler Issoufou, Chief of the Presidential Office of the People's Republic of Benin arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

Oct. 30

* The Pacific Fleet Red Flag Song and Dance Ensemble of the Soviet Union headed by N.V. Zelenin arrived in Pyongyang by plane.
* Rwandan President Habyarimana Juvenal met a delegation of the Korean People's Army headed by Major General An Yun Chan on a visit to Rwanda to attend functions of Rwandan army day.

Oct. 31

* A trade protocol between the governments of the DPRK and People's Republic of Bangladesh was signed in Pyongyang.
* An Indian government economic delegation headed by Rao Birendra Singh, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Reconstruction of the Republic of India, flew into Pyongyang.

Nov. 3

* The second handball selection of Czechoslovakia arrived in Pyongyang by plane.
* A delegation of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society headed by R.M. Esenov, Chairman of the Turkmen Society for Friendship and Cultural Liaison with Foreign Countries of the Soviet Union, arrived in Pyongyang by air.

Nov. 4

* Victor Manzanilla Schaffer, First Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of Mexico to the DPRK, arrived in Pyongyang by train.
* A delegation of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Sohyo) headed by Kato Yutaka its Vice-Chairman, flew into Pyongyang.
* Senegalese President Deopold Sedar Senghor met Kim Hyong Ui who is a special envoy of President Kim Il Sung. Saying that the new proposal for national reunification set forth by President Kim Il Sung was a most realistic and fair one, the president expressed support to it.

Nov. 7

* A 1980-1981 working plan between the Ministries of Public Health of the DPRK and China was signed in Pyongyang on the basis of the agreement on cooperation in health services between the DPRK and the People's Republic of China.

(KCNA)

Western Powers See Kim's Case As Threat to Democracy

The world-wide demand for freedom of south Korea's leading democratic leader Kim Dae Jung is getting momentum as the chances for the dismissed of his death penalty are becoming dimmer.

The Canadian and West German parliaments unanimously adopted appeals calling on the Chon Du Hwan junta to set free Mr. Kim Dae Jung, a U.S. congressional panel and European leaders such as Schmidt and Brandt actively joined a chorus of protest against the death verdict imposed on Mr. Kim.

Faced with a storm of protest, Chon Du Hwan said, "Throughout the world wherever there is a Pyongyang's mission or representative there is activity on in connection with the Kim Dae Jung affair." (from an interview with the Asian Wall Street Journal, Nov. 18)

However, their activities for freedom of Kim Dae Jung have nothing to do with Pyongyang's missions. Are they on the payroll of Pyongyang? Never!

Their concern over Kim's fate is closely related to the fact that Kim Dae Jung is a simbol of democracy in south Korea and that they see a menace to their shared democratic values in the Kim case and don't want instability resulting from his undue execution.

The continuing denial of democracy in south Korea, as dramatized by Kim's death trial, is perceived by the world public as highly upsetting and generating seeds of future catastrophe. They believe that such dictatorial rule will never lead to political stability and economic prosperity, let alone reunification.

They are well aware that the murder of democracy produces to totalitarianism and militarization, which will lead to in turn the renewal of hostilities.

Mr. Kim is a person of outstanding integrity and a devout Christian who has kept faith in representative government.

To the Japanese, the Kim Dae Jung case is an act of gross injustice on Japan's doorstep. He was kidnapped from Japan in 1973 by KCIA agents. It is clear to them that Japan's soverignty was tramped upon in contravention of international law and practice.

The Japanese people are afraid that if they remain onlookers on Kim's fate, there will ensure the further militalization of their country.

They also worry that such conduct will win their nation notoriety for disrespect for international law and democracy.

All the more, all those concerned about his fate know very well that the death sentence handed to him by the south Korean court martial is unjust and illegal. The proceedings of Kim's trial did not follow the generally accepted legal standards and he did not have adequate legal representation. More importantly, it is an act of murder by the Chon junta in the name of a "trial."

Kim's execution will severely affect stability in Asia and pose a threat to the common values shared by the international community of nations.

Kim S. Koreans' Hope for Democracy & Reunification: Mainichi Shimbun

Japan's leading vernacular daily Mainichi Shimbun portrayed Mr. Kim Dae Jung now under a death sentence as a symbol of Korean democracy and reunification, the shared aspirations of the Korean people. This portrayal was given in a lengthy analysis of the background of the Kim Dae Jung case.

The Mainichi Shimbun in its November 29 issue quoted Prof. Chong Song Bae of the French National University of Social Sciences as saying, "Mr. Kim Dae Jung is the first politician to have challenged the taboo when the reunification issue was still a taboo in south Korea."

The in-depth analytical report of the daily referred to Mr. Kim's remarks that any effort for political or economic development must be in the interests of Korea's reunification.

The author, Mr. Torichigae, city-news reporter of the Tokyo daily, strongly urged the Japanese Government to press for the freedom of the south Korean Opposition leader. Excerpts:

The day of sentencing by the south Korean Supreme Court to Mr. Kim Dae Jung is approaching. There is no likelihood that the death penalty handed down on him by the lower military courts will be dismissed. Shall we sit idle? The trial is a followup of the abduction incident seven years ago. The south Korean and Japanese governments reached two political settlements, leaving the issue of human rights and sovereignty violations unsettled. Therefore, the outcome of the trial has a grave bearing on Japan. Yet, this article is on a different subject, namely, on what 'Kim Dae Jung' represents in the eyes of the south Korean people. For them, the north-south reunification is their long-cherished shared longing. Mr. Kim is its symbol. Someone may say, "None of your business." Yet, I believe shouting "Save Mr. Kim Dae Jung" will help build a bridge of friendship with the south Korean people. This is what I felt in investigating the Kim Dae Jung case.

All the More Distant But Near Country

Since the May "Kwangju incident," south Korea has become all the more "distant but near country." Information is extremely fragmentary and trickling in due to a strict censorship. The voices of the families of the 24 defendants of the Kim Dae Jung trial came anyhow.

"The martial-law command has already taken into custody all those lawyers who could defend Mr. Kim Dae Jung and his friends. The families visited more than fifty attorneys who refused to become their defense counsel as they were aware of what pressure would be brought upon them if they agreed." This is from an appeal of the defendants' families released to the public by the Emergency Christian Conference on the Korean Problems which was made available through Christian sources after August.

The military appeals court which ended its hearings on November 3 rejected the request for defense witnesses and did not give the defendants the chance for their final arguments. The sentences were demanded by the prosecution in the absence of any defendant. The appeal from their families concluded this way: "We offer prayers to the life of Mr. Kim Dae Jung who drew a death penalty in the interests of Korean democracy. We hope for assistance and support from our friends all over the world, November 20."

Can we remain indifferent to this as "an affair of others"? There are those who say, "The Kim Dae Jung trial is an internal affair of south Korea. We should not repeat the old mistake of poking our noses at it." In their view, the rescue movement is an act of interference. This plausibly correct view sounds fishy.

The Kim Dae Jung trial is not only a domestic affair of south Korea but also a matter of concern to Japan as an extension of the Kim Dae Jung kidnapping case. Mr. Kim was forcibly taken to Seoul from a Tokyo hotel in broad daylight on August 8, 1973. By-passing the infringement on his human rights and sovereignty of this country, but Tokyo and Seoul governments reached the so-called political settlements on two occasions in November of the same year and in July, 1975. The Japanese Government obtained the pledge of Seoul "not to punish Mr. Kim Dae Jung for his activities overseas" in exchange for not seeking for his restoration to the pre-abduction status (the first settlement).

Nevertheless, this agreement seems to have been defied. Since he is charged of violating the National Security Law, the "crime" which brought the death verdict in the first-instance and second-instance courts is believed to be his alleged formation and guidance of Hanmintong (the Korean Congress for Democracy and Unification) headquartered in Tokyo. This is obviously his activity abroad.

Japanese Role in Silencing Kim Case

Since the Seoul visit at the end of September of former Premier Fukuda, the Japanese Government has adopted a policy of keeping silence. Foreign Minister Ito said at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House of the Diet on October 29, "It is advisable for us to keep silence and follow how the trial proceeds."

With this silence comes the Japanese Government's growing role (in helping silence the public demand for Mr. Kim's freedom). It is to be seen in the issue of whether to allow a Hanmintong delegation to return here after visiting the UN Headquarters in New York. Hanmintong applied for a reentry permit for its delegations to appeal for Mr. Kim's freedom to the United Nations in October and the Socialist International Congress in Madrid in November. The Justice Ministry refused to issue a reentry permit for the two. The action was taken after the south Korean embassy lodged a protest with the Foreign Ministry.

Suppose we admit that controversial vaguely-worded settlements, the Government should say what it should because even those agreements are now violated.

Korean Hopes for Reunification

What impressed me most when I made friends of many Korean residents in this country was the extent of their aspirations for north-south reunification.

A certain second-generation young Korean remarked to me: "Many of our generation were thrown stones at by Japanese children when we were pupils of primary and lower-secondary schools..... 'You, *chosenjin* (the derogatory term for the Korean)'. This discrimination still persists. The only way to overcome this discrimination is achieving the reunification of our homeland. A reunified and strong homeland will enable us to beat back such discrimination."

Mr. Kim Dae Jung seems to stand for this national aspiration.

Yet, I know many Koreans who regard Mr. Kim as symbol of reunification. "Mr. Kim Dae Jung is the first politician to have challenged the taboo when the reunification issue was still a taboo in south Korea." This statement was made by Prof. Chong Song Bae at the French National University of Social Sciences. He is now 47 years old. He was once abducted by the KCIA from France to Seoul. An eldery Korean resident with no particular relation with Hanmintong said, "The north-south division will be perpetuated that much with the passage of time. Reunification must be attempted at. The sooner, the better. Mr. Kim Dae Jung is the sole man capable of bringing about it. So, he shall not die. It will take the Koreans too much time to bear and rear a second Kim Dae Jung.."

A certain junior officer of Mindan (the pro-Seoul Union of ROK Residents in Japan) happened to disclose his true thinking, "We cannot say openly. But we think at the bottom of our hearts that Mr. Kim Dae Jung shall not die."

In spring this year, a "temporary spring in Seoul," Mr. Kim Dae Jung made the following remark: "I feel boundless sorrow when I mediate on reunification.....Political development (democracy), economic construction.....all effects must contribute to the happiness of our Korean people. I emphatically declare if all these efforts are not linked ultimately to the reunification of the country, they are anti-popular and anti-national. (his lecture at Korea Theological College on April 16)

Needless to say, it is the job of the Korean people themselves to end the division and achieve reunification, not a matter with which we Japanese should interfere. Yet, shall we be permitted to pay no heed to the yearnings of the Korean people? The current trial should not be allowed to dampen the hopes for north-south reunification.

It is necessary for us the Japanese to view the Mr. Kim-rescue movement not only as our own but also as a matter of sympathy with the neighboring people's aspirations.

Now at issue is whether genuine Japanese-Korean intercourse is initiated. The Government must maintain to the last its stern stand of not tolerating Mr. Kim's execution. The more people should chant, "Save Mr. Kim Dae Jung!" Time is running out.

(Continued from page 1)
the United States";

Sin U Jun, Chairman of the "Ex-Servicemen's Society in the Eastern Area of the United States";

Li Hae Son, Chairman of the "Society of Korean Women in New York, the United States";

Li Yong Dan, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Brazil";

Pak Yong Bin, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Venezuela";

Chae Chung Ho, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Colombia";

Kim Yu Jin, representative of the "Council for Democracy in South Korea" (the United States);

Li Min Hui, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in South California" (the United States);

Pak Hui So, Chairman of the "Council of Churches in the New York District";

Kang U Sok, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Toronto" (Canada);

Kim Ji Il, Chairman of the "Committee for Defence of Human Rights" (Canada);

Kang Sin Bong, Chairman of the "Federation of Koreans" (Canada);

Kang Gil Ro, Chairman of the "General Council of Korean Students in Washington";

Pak Gyu Hun, Chairman of the "Society of Koreans in Washington District";

Li Yong, representative of "Hanguk Tongsin";

So Jong Gyun, publisher of "Haeoe Hanminbo";

Kim Un Ha, publisher of "Sinhan Minbo";

Chon Chung Rim, publisher of "the New Korea Times";

Chong Gi Yong, publisher of "Hanmin Sinbo";

Kim Gyong Je, publisher of "Tokrip Sinmun";

Hong Song Won, publisher of "Hanguk Sinbo";

Kim Sok Nam, publisher of "Minju Sinmun";

Chong Chol Gi, publisher of "Minjung Sinmun";

Yu Yong Rin, publisher of "Korea Journal";

The letter was mailed to **Yu Sok Jun** and **Ryang Sang Gi** of the "Union of Overseas Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification" in Japan;

Pae Dong Ho, Cho Hwal Jun, Kim Jong Chung, Kim Gyong Sik, Kwak Yong Mun, Pak Hwang Sun, Cho Gyu Pil, Yun Hyok Hyo, Kang Yong Ji, Kim Gun Bu, Ho Chang Won and **Hwak Su Ho** of the Japan headquarters of the "National Congress for the Restoration of Democracy in South Korea and Promotion of Unification";

Kwak Won Gi, Ko Chang Su, Li Gyong Sik, Rim Gye Song, Li Sang Ho, Im Chong Il, Ko Yong Hong, Son Ma Haeng, Kang Chun Gun, Son Gyong Hwan, Choe Chong Gil, Yun Won Su, Kwak Mun Ho and **Im Byong Taek** of the "South Korea Youth League in Japan"; **Kim Yun Jong, Kim Jae Sul, Han Chang Gyu, Kim Sang Ryong, So Dong Gun, O Hong Jo** and **Kim Gwang Nam** of the " 'Mindan' Committee for Defence of Independence" and "Independent 'Mindan' ";

Min Yong Sang, Kim Yong Won, Kim Yong Chul, Ryang Hye Sung and **Cho Song Je** of the "Council for National Unification";

Kim Un Taek, Kim Gang Su, Pak Chan Ho and **Kang Song Jae** of the "Minjok Sibo Office";

Ryang Yong Ji of the Tokyo headquarters of the "Taehan Women's Society";

Chong Jae Jun and **Kwak Dong Ui** of the "Liaison Council of Overseas Koreans for Rescuing Kim Dae Jung"; **Li Jwa Yong** of the "Council of Families of Japan-Resident Korean Political Prisoners in South Korea" and other personages.

The letter was also sent to **Pak Byong Hon, Kim Chi Sun, Ho Yun Dok, Kwon Hyok Du, Kim Gwang Sung, Kang In Hwan, Pak Tae Hwan, Sin Yong Sang, Chong Bong Son, Kim Jong Hyon, Cho Nyong Ju, Pak Song Jun, Kim Jun Ho, Kim Gu Sol, Kim In Su, Yun Chi Ha, Choe Chung, Rim Sam Ho, Bae Sun Hui, Ho Pil Sok, An Pal Yong, Kang Taek U, Pak Jong, Li Hui Gon, Son Jae, Kim Gi Chol, Kim Jang Sul, Kim Song Hwan, Kim Yong Jun, Kim Yong Tae, Kim Yun Jung, Kim Tae Sop, Kim Su Tae, Ryang Sam Yong, Li Nung Sang, Li Myong Sop, Li Bong Nam, Li Sang Tae, Li Gum Ryong, Li Su Song, Li Yong Gil, Li Yu Chon, Li Yun Gu, Li Jong Myong, Mun Gyong So, Pak Rin Su, Pak Tae Hwan, Song Gi Hwan, Sin Yong Sang, Sim Jong Hyo, Chong Dong Hwa, Chong Chan Jin, Chong Chol, Chi Chang Nam, Choe Hak Bu, O Gyong Bok, O Gi Mun, Yun Bong Gye, Kim Hak Bong, Kim Song Il, Kim Ung Ryol, Kim Sang Muk, Nam Gung Su, Li Dong Ho, Pak Yong Hun, An Sang Gwon, O Myong Gun, Chong In Gun, Cho Gi Nam, Chu Song Hoe, Chi Sok Jin** and other personages under "Mindan" in Japan.

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